

Docket No.: BSZ-049

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Susan Gould-Fogerite, et al.

Application No.: 10/822235

Filed: April 9, 2004 Art Unit: 1635

For: COCHLEATE COMPOSITIONS DIRECTED

AGAINST EXPRESSION OF PROTEINS

Examiner: B. A. Whiteman

Confirmation No.: 1705

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed April 11, 2006.

The Examiner has required restriction between the following inventions in the aboveidentified application:

- I. Claims 1-4, 6, and 8-13, drawn to an siRNA-cochelate composition comprising a cochleate and an siRNA associated with the cochleate, wherein the siRNA mediates interference against a target mRNA expressing a cancer protein, classifiable in class 514, subclass 44.
- II. Claims 1-4, 6, and 8-13, drawn to an siRNA-cochelate composition comprising a cochleate and an siRNA associated with the cochleate, wherein the siRNA mediates interference against a target mRNA expressing a viral protein (HIV protein), classifiable in class 514, subclass 44.

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III. Claims 1-4, 6, and 8-13, drawn to an siRNA-cochelate composition comprising a cochleate and an siRNA associated with the cochleate, wherein the siRNA mediates interference against a target mRNA expressing a fungal protein, classifiable in class 514, subclass 44.

- IV. Claims 1-4, 6, and 8-13, drawn to an siRNA-cochleate composition comprising a cochleate and an siRNA associated with the cochleate, wherein the siRNA mediates interference against a target mRNA expressing a bacterial protein, classifiable in class 514, subclass 44.
- V. Claims 1-4, 6, and 8-13, drawn to an siRNA-cochleate composition comprising a cochleate and an siRNA associated with the cochleate, wherein the siRNA mediates interference against a target mRNA expressing an abnormal cellular protein, classifiable in class 514, subclass 44.
- VI. Claims 1-4, 6, and 8-13, drawn to an siRNA-cochleate composition comprising a cochleate and an siRNA associated with the cochleate, wherein the siRNA mediates interference against a target mRNA expressing a cellular protein, classifiable in class 514, subclass 44.
- VII. Claims 7 and 43, drawn to an siRNA-cochleate composition comprising a cochleate and an siRNA associated with the cochleate and further comprising a second siRNA directed against a second target mRNA, classifiable in class 514, subclass 44.
- VIII. Claims 14-24, 44-51, and 62-63, drawn to a method of treating a subject having a disease or disorder associated with expression of a target mRNA comprising administering to a subject an siRNA-cochleate composition, classifiable in class 424, subclass 93.2.
- IX. Claims 25-33, and 52-61, drawn to a method of forming a siRNA-cochleate composition comprising precipitating a liposome and a siRNA, classifiable in class 424, subclass 450.

Applicants would like to thank Examiner Whiteman for the telephone conference held on May 8, 2006, during which Applicants orally elected Group II, Claims 1-4, 6, and 8-13 for continued examination. It is Applicants understanding that Examiner Whiteman is going to further restrict the claimed invention. As such, Applicants respectfully reserve the right to respond to a further restriction.

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In the meanwhile, Applicants submit herewith a preliminary amendment in order to respond fully to the Notice to Comply Letter mailed from the PTO concurrently with the Office Action of April 11, 2006.

Dated: May 11, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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